



IFUW Update – 21 November 2013



IFUW news

Taking IFUW into the future

We are revising our membership programme to improve the services that we provide to you and to ensure that we can build a stronger IFUW that is responsive to the needs of our member associations and thus graduate women worldwide.

We have compiled an online survey which includes questions on your membership, priorities and how we can improve our service to you. It would be much appreciated if you can complete this survey to enable us to better meet your needs and in turn to strengthen IFUW.

If you represent a national association or federation member, please complete this [online survey for national associations and federations](#).

If you are an independent member, please complete the [online survey for independent members](#).

Since 1919, we have come so far and yet we still have so far to go to achieve lifelong education for women and girls worldwide; to promote respect for human rights for all; to advocate for the advancement of the status of women and girls; and encourage and enable women and girls to apply their knowledge and skills in leadership and decision-making in all forms of public and private life. Your invaluable participation in our network makes the achievement of this mission possible.

If you have any questions or would like to receive the Survey link directly or in Word format, please do not hesitate to contact Caroline Staffell, email: [cs\(at\)ifuw.org](mailto:cs(at)ifuw.org). Thank you in advance for taking the time to provide your invaluable feedback, we look forward to hearing from you.

CIR discussion thread: Mixed or segregated student accommodation?

The internal CIR [discussion thread](#) was active as Aylin Moraloğlu from Turkey asked an urgent question to benchmark what was happening in different countries: The Turkish Prime Minister reportedly instructed a provincial governor to check whether male and female students are sharing the same accommodation due to lack of space in local student dormitories. He denounced such cases as being against "Turkey's conservative, democratic character" and vowed to take measures against such instances. The Turkish Association of University Women (TAUW) requested information on the standards in place in IFUW member countries regulating this matter and the practices, notions and the numbers of mixed-sex accommodation of students. The upshot was that sex segregation is considered unlawful in most countries, but that co-educational accommodation requires some supervision.

A quick and easy way to get information, we urge the international contacts (CIRs) within IFUW to use this [discussion platform](#) actively to exchange information, discussion and best practices.

NFA news

Finnish Federation of University Women (FFUW) publishes new history

Following a successful annual meeting on 9 November 2013, a new history of FFUW has been published. It was written by a professional researcher, Dr Maritta Pohls. In addition to FFUW's history, Dr Pohls discusses the conditions needed for survival of any (women's) organisation.

NZFGW national executive October meeting

Discussion on the follow-up to the IFUW resolutions has led to a decision to write to sister organisations about the resolutions, and to selectively write to government ministers on matters that are most relevant to New Zealand. [Read more](#)

UWA, Pune celebrates International Day of the Girl Child

On the International Day of the Girl Child, IFUWA President Dr Vinaybala Mehta made an appeal to girl students to enroll other girls in schools from their locality in view of the dropouts from many girls' schools in Pune. Scholarships were distributed to undergraduate students on 5th October 2013. Read more at http://www.ifuw.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Report_of_UWAP_oct_2013.pdf

Volunteer and internship positions

In order to facilitate exchange, networking and mentorship, IFUW would like to share volunteer and internship positions among its members. If you or your NFA have such openings, please advise the office via e-mail: [ifuw\(at\)ifuw.org](mailto:ifuw(at)ifuw.org)

Young Members Newsletter 2013

The Young Members Newsletter is ready for [download](#)

Advocacy

Human Rights Council seeks input on the promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations

The Human Rights Council invites civil society representatives to respond to its [questionnaire](#) on the promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations. The deadline for submissions has been extended until Friday, 22 November 2013 (midnight, GMT).

Human Rights Day 2013

It has been twenty years since the creation of the position of High Commissioner for Human Rights in 1993. This has enabled an independent, authoritative voice to speak out for human rights worldwide and significant progress has been made despite the continued challenges to human rights. For resources on Human Rights Day on December 10, visit the anniversary website on <http://at20.ohchr.org/index.html> and follow #UNRightsAt20 via Twitter.

Applications to work for the rights of indigenous peoples

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [invites applications](#) for sixteen special procedures mandate holders and two members of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, to be appointed by the Human Rights Council at its twenty-fifth session (3-28 March 2014). [Applications](#) should be received by Thursday, 21 November 2013 (midnight, GMT).

A rights based approach to sexual and reproductive health issues

Revela2 focuses on sexual and reproductive health issues for 15 to 19 year olds in Colombia. There is an emphasis on decision-making for teen pregnancy prevention; HIV testing; sexual violence; and, with abortion being legal in Colombia in three cases, access to information and services. A [television series](#) and a series of educational packs and [support materials](#) for parents and teachers.

New Committee of NGOs from Latin America and the Caribbean on the Status of Women in the United Nations

The Committee of NGOs from Latin America and the Caribbean on the Status of Women was created along with those from four other regions of the world, with the goal of strengthening regional processes to influence gender equality and the women's empowerment agenda. One of the principal activities of this new body is to organise forums for sharing and discussion that bring women's concerns to governments' attention during the regional meetings of the United Nations.

The first official meeting of the Committee of NGOs took place on 16 October, in the city of Santo Domingo, on the occasion of the XII Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean. People interested in contacting with it can do it through: FEIM: feim@feim.org.ar or REPEM LAC: repem@repem.org

UNESCO infographics - Education Transforms Lives

<http://www.education-transforms.org/en/>

UN Women Expert Group Meeting

The background papers are available for the UN Women Expert Group Meeting on "Structural and policy constraints in achieving the MDGs for women and girls". The meeting convened in Mexico in October.

Read more:

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw58-2014/preparations/expert-group-meeting#backgroundpapers>

Fellowships and calls for proposals

Thematic webinar series on women's economic empowerment

Do you have ideas on how communication and advocacy could be effective in unleashing actions to recognise, reduce and redistribute rural women's unpaid care work? Read the [e-discussion](#) on rural women's unpaid care work last month. Here is your opportunity to engage directly with three of the experts who moderated the e-discussion.

Calls for JAUW International Fellowship Programme

Funding is available to help MAs, or pre-doctoral or dissertation level students and postdoctoral researchers of a younger age to come and stay in Japan to pursue their ongoing study/research. Deadline: March 31, 2014

Other information and events

- 17 November International Students Day

- 19 November World Day for the Prevention of Child Abuse
 - 21 November [WASH in Schools Empowers Girls' Education, Annual MHM Conference](#)
 - 21-25 November IFUW board meetings, Geneva
 - 24-27 November Sixth World Science Forum, Rio de Janeiro
 - 25 November International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
 - 24-27 November Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, 5th session
 - 1 December World AIDS Day
 - 9-13 December Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, 6th session
 - 10 December Human Rights Day
 - 6-10 January 2014 Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, 7th session
 - 12-16 February IFUW board meetings, Geneva
 - 14 February One Billion Rising - V Day
 - 3-28 Feb/March Human Rights Council, Geneva
 - 10-21 March Committee on the Status of Women (#CSW58), New York
 - 10-27 June Human Rights Council, Geneva
 - 22-23 September World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, New York
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Social Media

Share your thoughts on human rights day using #UNRightsAt20



Follow IFUW on our social media outlets! Join the discussions on LinkedIn.

International Federation of University Women, Fédération Internationale des Femmes Diplômées des Universités

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